

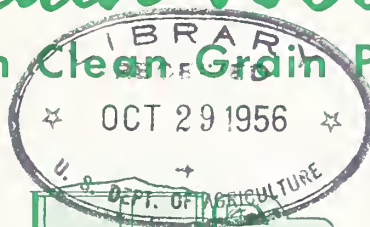
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Clean Grain Notes

for Cooperators in Clean Grain Program



FEDERAL EXTENSION SERVICE

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

NO. 1

This is the first in a series of newsletters from the Federal Extension clean grain committee. Purpose of the newsletter is to serve as an exchange of information on clean grain activities and developments. The committee solicits ideas, suggestions, and resumes of activities by all interested groups.

Clean Grain Progress Report: Reduction in car seizures of wheat during the past five months provides encouraging evidence of the value of the clean grain educational program. During the 10-month period, January 1 to October 31, 1955, 4,272 cars of wheat were inspected by the Food and Drug Administration. Of this number, 32 contained more than two rodent pellets per pint and three had more than two percent insect damaged wheat. Fourteen of the cars were seized and 18 were diverted to nonfood use without legal action.

Since October 31, 1955, only three cars of wheat have been seized because of contamination. However, on the basis of the new tolerance that goes into effect after July 1, 110 of the 4,272 cars inspected exceeded the tolerance allowed. This points up the need for intensifying all clean grain efforts.

New Sanitation Standards: By way of reminder, the new standards for wheat to go into effect after July 1, 1956, allows no more than one rodent pellet per pint and no more than one percent insect damaged grain for wheat in interstate transit.

North Central States Entomologists Report Winter Activities: Indicative of the continued clean grain work being carried on by State Extension Services are the reports given by extension entomologists at the North Central States branch entomology meeting. Each of the entomologists attending reported continued emphasis on clean grain work in their States this past winter. They also gave a review of work planned this year. Coordination of effort by all interests was given as the key to effective programs.

Don't Overlook 4-H and FFA Support: State and county extension and vocational agricultural workers looking for ways of stepping up their clean grain efforts might take a tip from these reports of recent 4-H and FFA activities:

4-H Club members in Sullivan County, Tennessee, have found television to be an effective way of attacking the rat problem in the Johnson City area. Armed with eye-catching "props" and a lively script, members of the Gunning's Club demonstrated rat damage and control measures over Station WJHL-TV recently. Props included two live rats, a sack of meal (hole in sack), ear corn, Warfarin, liquid rat poison in small flat pan, garbage can, hardware cloth, small piece of sheet metal, mouse and rat traps, steel trap, cat, dog, and rifle.

North Dakota clean grain work has been materially aided by members of 166 4-H Clubs and 35 FFA Chapters carrying clean grain projects. Club members alone surveyed nearly 3,000 bins to determine what control measures, if any, were needed for safe grain storage.

Kansas has added a new Statewide rodent control program to its 4-H activities. Suggested work includes rat and mice control campaigns, informing the community and county of the health menace and economic loss from these rodents, and construction or purchase of control equipment and materials.

Suggested Spring Activities: The advent of spring brings the need for renewed emphasis on many phases of clean grain work. Attention should be focused on:

1. Regular inspection of stored grain to detect any buildup of insects brought on by warm weather. Growers and handlers should be warned to watch grain carefully and to take immediate steps to destroy any insects found.
2. Use of weed-free seed in spring planting areas, and timely spraying of small grain fields for weed control. These practices will normally lessen moisture problems at harvest and, in some areas, will eliminate the need for windrowing...thus reducing field contamination of grain. MOST WEEDS ARE PLANTED!
3. Cleaning, spraying, and repair of bins before harvest to protect newly stored grain from insect, rodent, bird, and weather damage. Bait rat stations and clean up premises to destroy hiding places. REMEMBER...EVERY PAIR OF RATS KILLED NOW IS EQUAL TO 50 KILLED NEXT FALL.

New Educational Materials: Last December we sent a list of clean grain educational materials available from educational and industry sources to cooperators in the clean grain program. Since then, the Douglas Chemical Company has finished production of a new film on the use of their liquid grain protectant entitled "The Hungry Horde." The film and educational leaflets and bulletins can be obtained by writing the Douglas Chemical Company, 620 East Sixteenth Avenue, North Kansas City, Missouri.

We would appreciate receiving notice of other new educational materials available for loan as they are developed by industry and educational cooperators.

Worth Reading: The April issue of County Agent and Vo-Ag Teacher magazine carries two excellent articles on the why and how of effective clean grain programs. The authors, Clyde Noyes and Wayne Colberg, Nebraska and North Dakota extension workers, write from experience gained as members of very active clean grain committees. You'll find the article on pages 32 and 34.

Worth Watching: A new low-cost method of grain elevator insect control may come from Michigan State University tests with a million-volt electron beam generator. Tests show the beam controls most insects which infest grain and grain products.

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